EDMONTON

News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EDMONTON 2007
CULTURAL CAPITALE CAPITAL CULTURELLE of CANADA de CANADA

Edmonton's property tax third lowest in Canada

Municipal tax rates are competitive with other cities

Edmonton, January 11, 2008 – The cost to Edmonton homeowners of the services delivered by the City of Edmonton is still a bargain when compared with other Canadian cities, according to the 2007 Residential Property Taxes and Utility Charges Survey. Edmonton's municipal property tax levy (excluding school tax) ranks the third lowest among the 24 Canadian cities surveyed in 2007.

Municipal property taxes fund vital city services such as police, fire fighting and emergency medical services, and build libraries and recreation centres. "Based on citizens' priorities, council decides what services are needed and what funding is required to maintain them," says Al Maurer, City Manager. "Our ranking reflects how well Edmonton has done in managing the costs to run the city while delivering on priorities."

When utility costs are added, Edmonton's ranks fourteenth lowest, one per cent lower than the average across the 24 cities. Utility charges are for telephone, power, water, sewer, garbage collection and land (storm) drainage services, which are not paid for through property taxes. Edmonton's combined cost of municipal property tax (excluding school taxes) and utility charges amounted to $3,452 in 2007 for the sample house compared in all municipalities.

Edmonton also compared well within the region. In both municipal tax levy and combined total municipal taxes and utility charges, Edmonton ranked fourth lowest of the nine regional municipalities.

The City of Edmonton conducts this annual survey of property taxes and utility charges for a sample, single-detached house in 24 major Canadian cities and the Edmonton region to assess the relative cost to Edmonton homeowners.

- 30 -

About Edmonton:

This is a city alive with energy and boundless opportunity - a growing economic powerhouse where business thrives and more than a million lives enjoy the freedom to explore, experiment, experience, excel and expect the most out of every day. A place like no other, Edmonton is filled with surprises great and small and a calendar packed with artistic, sporting, theatrical and cultural celebration.

For more information on Edmonton, please visit our website at: www.edmonton.ca.

For additional information, contact:

Janet Omelchuk
Senior Planner/Economist
780-496-4105

THE CITY OF Edmonton